

Mill Hollow Campground Expansion Planned

13 Apr 1988
Heber District Ranger Roy Daniels announced plans by the Uinta National Forest to construct an additional 75 to 100 family camping units on the bench below and east of the existing Mill Hollow Campground.

The expansion will be part of the existing campground, with the enlarged site having a common sewage and water system.

Existing recreation facilities and areas in Mill Hollow are used very heavily by the public. Planned paving of the Wolf Creek Highway

(State Highway 35) will result in many more people visiting the area. "It all adds up to a need for more recreation facilities to meet the needs of the public," explained Ranger Daniels.

Anyone having comments or questions concerning this proposal may contact Dennis Jensen at the Heber Ranger District Office, U.S. Forest Service, P.O. Box 190, Heber City, UT 84032; or call 654-0470. Comments should be received by May 31 to be used in the planning process.

U.S. loses money on Utah timber sales

ST. GEORGE (AP) — Timber sales from national forests in Utah cost the federal government more than \$2 million last year, a U.S. Forest Service report concludes.

Annual timber sales by the Forest Service in Utah totaled \$1.8 million in 1988, the report said, with other revenues bringing the statewide total to \$2.7 million.

But the cost of administering the program was \$4.9 million, creating a net loss of nearly \$2.2 million. When a mandatory payment to the state on the timber sales is added in, the total loss is more than \$2.5 million.

However, to eliminate the program could have a noticeable impact on Utah's economy, the report said. Timber harvesting on Forest Service land in Utah accounted for 836 jobs, with a total community income of \$15 million.

Dixie National Forest accounts for the largest number of jobs, 278, with Wasatch-Cache National Forest a close second with 272 jobs.

"The charge that Congress has given the Forest Service is to manage forest resources in a multiple use concept," said Ronald Brunson, timber staff officer of Dixie National Forest.

"If you were to do away with the program, it would have a harsh impact on the communities who rely on (the program) for their livelihood," he said.

Overall, the sale of timber by the Forest Service generates a profit for the government. In 1987, national sales totaled \$1.25 billion. Expenses came to \$714.5 million, with payments to state and local governments totaling \$272 million, leaving a net

profit of \$267.4 million.

In addition to the profit, the program generates \$650 million in federal income tax. The program is responsible for 139,121 jobs nationwide, with an economic impact on communities to the tune of nearly \$5 million.

Rep. James V. Hansen, R-Utah, a member of the House Interior Committee, said he was cautiously supportive of the program despite its losses in Utah and other states.

Hansen said that if the program were not in place, the Forest Service would have to contract out the process of thinning forests at considerable expense and little economic benefit.

Forests are thinned under the timber sales program as a routine part of their management.

"Without the (logging off) of certain areas," Brunson said. "They would become completely closed in with overmature growth. That cuts out a lot of areas for wildlife."

"A lot of people access forests and recreational areas on roads constructed for timber purposes, contributing to the multiple use concept. The people who would like to see the timber sales program changed don't look beyond simple cash flow," he said.

Utah is not the only state in the region where the Forest Service is losing money. Colorado, for example, shows an overall loss of slightly more than \$1 million. But the program creates 1,130 jobs and generates more than \$23 million in economic impact for local communities.



Loggers roll — About 250 logging trucks from around the Pacific Northwest form a convoy to the Missoula County Fairgrounds Saturday for a Cowboy and Logger Days exhibition. Those participating in the event were hoping to draw attention to what they believe is a lack of timber in their regional forests.



The last days of summer were evident this past week as a "cold spell" came into our Valley. Several families took advantage of the weekend to enjoy the great outdoors! Everything from cutting wood to camping to picnicking was experienced. It seemed as though each group wanted to "hang on" to the end of a beautiful season. 9-13-89

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Police Officer Training Conducted In Heber City

Heber City's Industrial Park streets were closed to traffic a couple of days last week while police officers practiced maneuvering their vehicles between markers, sometimes at speeds as high as 58 mph.

Sgt. Don Messick, of the Provo Police Department, conducted the four-day, emergency vehicle operations course, assisted by Officer Scott Finch, also of Provo. Although what the officers learned and

practiced apply to high-speed pursuits, the main objective was for them to develop skills in maneuvering through tight places in order to arrive safely at any emergency situation, he said.

"An officer's absolutely worthless if he's dispatched to a call for help and, because of his driving, is involved in an accident and fails to arrive. It's the same as if they'd never dispatched anyone," Messick

said.

The Heber practice course wasn't as long as most courses used in the training, which restricted speed to an average of 35 to 40 mph. But the smaller course also was tighter, forcing officers to lower their speeds, but also requiring more skill at maneuvering.

"These principles that we're teaching at the slow speeds are just exactly what they would use at a higher speed. And that's what we're trying to do, is teach principles rather than speed," Messick said.

But he said the officers were timed on the course, "to give them a little stress and a little pressure to work under...We want to give them a little bit of the feeling of pressure of the chase, so to speak, or going to the scene of an accident at a higher rate of speed."



Law enforcement officers practiced maneuvering on a marked course at the Heber City Industrial Park during an 18-hour training session last week.

Timberlakes Notifies County of Intent To Sue Over Garbage Fees

The Timberlakes Homeowners Association has notified the Wasatch County Solid Waste Disposal Special Service District that it intends to file claims for relief and damages because the District charges the homeowners residential rates for solid waste collection although commercial services are being supplied.

County Attorney Steve Hansen explained that a public entity must be given a 90-day notice of intent to sue, to allow time for the parties to reach an agreement. The Association's Notice, dated Aug. 29, states that it also intends to file a claim against Auto-Cart, the contractor that collects trash for the District.

The plaintiffs claim denial of due process of law and of equal protec-

Notice, 300- and 400-gallon commercial containers are provided for community use at Timberlakes, but the District is billing individual property owners for residential service, and there is a difference in excess of \$2,000 per month between the commercial and residential rates.

The Notice says further, "...unless the District agrees to charge it commercial rates for commercial service, that it is entitled to a judgment against the District requiring the District to return to the Association and/or its members, any amounts paid in excess of the commercial rates, and further, that Claimant is entitled to a court order mandating the District to charge Claimant commercial rates as specified in the District's contract

Along with eight hours of practical experience behind the wheel, the students received eight hours of classroom instruction during which the basics and their liability were explained, Messick said.

"We teach them about their responsibility in obeying the laws and making sure of what their vehicles are doing...where the officer stands if he makes a mistake when he's going to the scene of an accident or dispatched on an emergency call...This course is designed to teach the officer to do what he has to do, do his job, but do it safely...for the protection of the officers, the public, and everyone concerned."

Law enforcement officers from Wasatch County, Heber City, American Fork, Provo, and the U.S. Forest Service participated in



Top logger tries to preserve the land

OLA, Idaho (AP) — Pat Carlock was chosen by the National Tree Farm System as "Idaho Logger of the Year."

With the growing pressure on loggers to protect the environment, Carlock has shunned the old logging techniques and embraced those that employ a light hand on the land.

He pointed out the modern techniques last week in a tour of a 200,000-board-foot harvest of insect-killed ponderosa pine trees bordering his land along Squaw Creek in southwestern Idaho.

His objective was to keep soil erosion to a minimum and prevent debris from washing into the stream, which drains the east side of Squaw Butte near Emmett.

"We took a few trees here and a few trees there, and we left the riparian values intact," Carlock said. "We hauled the logs over the hill so we didn't have to cross the creek."

As a teenager about 30 years ago, Carlock said, he helped log the same area for his uncle. In those days, loggers took the most direct route to log landings; environmental concerns weren't given a

thought on private land.

"We just skidded the logs and drove our tractors right across the creek," he said. "Boy, we've come around 180 degrees from those days."

State Forester John Roberts said he nominated Carlock for the award "because of the overall quality of his harvest operations, but especially because of the huge amount of effort that Pat puts into his relationship with the small, private timber owner."

Carlock said he spends about 20 percent of his time logging private woodlots.

Roberts is a state forest practices officer who has supervised Carlock's logging operations for the past two years. Carlock's wealth of knowledge about logging allows him to bridge the myriad concerns raised by individual landowners, Roberts said.

Some, for example, want their property logged, but they don't want to see the log haul roads, they don't want their view changed, and they don't want their apple trees crushed by heavy equipment.

"Pat takes all of his time making sure the landowner is happy," Roberts said. "It's a management kind of thing."

Roberts said Carlock's applies to all of his jobs.

"I live up here," Carlock muck up the creek or ruin it to do what's right. But we for that."

In the case of his own logger — one of about 10 he Western pine beetles were r pine trees.

"The bugs are really wiping he said. "About half the tr When the bugs move in, you stand or it will all go to the

To protect the environment lock installed rolling dips in water runoff and avoid w with grass to stabilize the ging job and skidded l systems.

Plan would reduce logging in one Uinta Mountains area

EVANSTON, Wyo. (AP) — Wasatch-Cache National Forest officials have proposed dramatically cutting back the amount of timber that can be logged in the Boundary Creek area of the Uinta Mountains.

That proposal is subject to revision after public comments from loggers and environmentalists.

"It's very seldom that the proposed action is the selected alternative," said Chuck Frank, project leader of the Evanston Ranger District.

Forest officials proposed cutting back the sale amount from 4 million board feet to 1.3 million board feet after discovering an "error" caused by a "misinterpretation" of the forest plan governing logging on the forest.

That error allowed 400 acres of forest to be logged — most of it above 10,000 feet.

The timber sale in the Boundary Creek area about 40 miles south of Evanston is intended to help prevent pine beetle infestation from spreading to epidemic levels. Trees most susceptible to the beetles grow below 10,000 feet elevation.

Since the discovery of the error, the 400-acre area has been scaled back to 165 acres.

Moreover, the forest plan restricts logging above 10,000 feet. But Frank said the word "restrict" is open to interpretation, either

meaning timber harvesting is banned in the area or reduced.

Dan Nickas, assistant coordinator of the Utah Wilderness Association, said it's important to keep logging at lower elevations.

"Anytime they try to harvest above 9,700 feet they have trouble in regeneration — it grows back slower than expected," he said.

Dan South of South and Jones Lumber Co. in Evanston, however, is angry at the Forest Service for decreasing the amount of trees he can log.

"These public land managers have completely lost their common sense," South said. "They're being driven by a handful of idealistic people associated with the environmental movement who won't be happy until the economic machine is turned off."

Saving owl may cost 20,000 timber jobs

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Top Bush administration officials have concluded that saving the Pacific Northwest's rare northern spotted owl from extinction will cost up to 20,000 timber jobs, The Washington Post reported Friday.

Quoting sources, the Post reported that an administration task force has tentatively embraced the primary recommendation of a scientific panel that called for preserving large chunks of the ancient "old-growth" forests where the owls live.

The decision to follow the panel's basic strategy, albeit with modifications aimed at cushioning job losses, reflects a recognition on the part of administration officials that to do anything less would jeopardize the survival of the bird, violate the federal Endangered Species Act and cause unacceptable political fallout, sources said.

The latest administration owl strategy could be rejected by President Bush.

The evolving owl protection plan appears to represent a retreat from the administration's posi-

tion earlier this summer when officials indicated that they were not prepared to accept large job losses and suggested that Congress consider revising the Endangered Species Act.

The owl has become the focal point in a larger battle over the future of the Pacific Northwest's ancient forests, concentrated mostly on federal lands on the western slope of the Cascades in Oregon and Washington.

Timber companies prize the enormous spruce and Douglas firs — some up to 700 years old — for their fine-grained lumber. Conservationists see them as essential to the preservation of wildlife habitat, clean water and biological diversity.

Only about 2.3 million acres remain of the 25 million acres of old-growth forest that once covered the Pacific Northwest, according to the Wilderness Society, a conservation group whose numbers are accepted by the Forest Service.

Sources said that after weeks of deliberations and testimony from outside experts, a task force

"working group" endorsed the scientific panel's recommendation, known as the Thomas report after principal author Jack Ward Thomas, a Forest Service researcher.

Sources said the Thomas report represented the bare minimum for saving the owl, since it would still allow for the loss of up to 40 percent of the estimated 3,000 spotted owls that remain.

Industry officials have estimated that as many as 150,000 jobs could be lost if the Thomas plan was implemented, but the administration task force believes the number is far lower — 12,000 to 13,000 in the near term and up to 20,000 by the end of the century, sources said.

The task force, comprised of the secretaries of agriculture and interior and top administration budget and environmental officials, was appointed in June following the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's decision to list the spotted owl as a threatened species. That designation requires the government to devise a recovery plan.

Battle over logging goes to Capitol Hill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Environmentalists and loggers are conducting rival lobbying campaigns on Capitol Hill this week in a high-stakes political battle over the Northwest's oldest forests and the northern spotted owl.

The two sides scheduled meetings with members of Congress as two House panels prepared to move forward with legislation addressing forest protection and timber harvest levels.

About 500 environmentalists rallied at the Capitol on Sunday to protest a series of bills they say would further reduce the shrinking supply of the nation's old-growth forests.

"The timber industry lobby has a national agenda as they grab the

wealth of public lands, operating from a national power base in Congress," said Mark Winstein of Save America's Forests, a grass-roots organization that sponsored the demonstration.

The group's leaders criticized mainstream environmental groups, such as the Sierra Club and the National Wildlife Federation, for failing to take strong enough stands.

Loggers and industry officials from the Pacific Northwest scheduled their own rally on Capitol Hill Monday to voice opposition to pro-environmental legislation that would restrict logging and lock up huge tracts of old-growth forests to help save the northern spotted owl from extinction.

* Haulers (freighters)

Loggers & Timbermen

Toddler & Zimmerman
& Hymers (Friedman)